

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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MAYOR



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Mayor Healy to Swear in City's First African-American Fire Chief Fire Chief Darren Rivers is the 17th Chief of the Department

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy will swear in the City's first African-American Fire Chief, Darren E. Rivers, during a 10 a.m. ceremony on Friday, Sept. 24, 2010, in City Hall Council Chambers, 280 Grove Street.

Having served in the Fire Department for 28 years in a highly decorated and honorable manner, Chief Rivers will be the Department's 17th Chief since its inception as a paid Fire Department on June 6, 1871.

"Jersey City is one of the most diverse cities in our state, as well as our nation, and it is only fitting that that diversity is reflected in our government leadership, including in our top public safety posts, as well as in appointed and elected offices," said **Mayor Healy**. "We are proud that today we are making history in Jersey City, as we swear in our first African-American Fire Chief."

Chief Rivers was sworn in as a firefighter in 1982 and quickly moved up the ranks. He was promoted to Captain in 1989, Battalion Chief in 2001, and Deputy Chief in 2007.

Chief Rivers, who attended P.S. #11 and P.S. #12 Grammar Schools and Lincoln High School, is the son of the late Patricia and the late Herman L. Rivers, and the son-in-law of Dorena Daniels. He is one of seven siblings.

Darren and his wife Kyshon are the proud parents of five children, including his son Darren who is also a Jersey City firefighter. The couple is also the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///